

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 USIA-06 FBO-02 A-01 OPR-02 PM-04

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 /059 W
----- 018337

R 261112Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8203

C O N F I D E N T I A L COTONOU 0358

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: AFSP, US, DM, PFOR

SUBJ: GPRB ACTIONS REGARDING EMBASSY PROPERTY

REF (A) COTONOU 198, (B) COTONOU 211, (C) COTONOU 260,
(D) STATE 35068, (E) COTONOU 306, (F) COTONOU 331,

1. EMBASSY RECEIVED REPLY FEB 25 FROM FORNMIN CONCERNING THE
BENINESE DEMAND THAT THE EMBASSY MOVE FROM ITS PRESENT LOCATION.
THE REPLY RESPONDS TO OUR NOTE OF FEB 16 WHICH WAS BASED ON REF
D.

2. RESPONSE REJECTS ALL POINTS RAISED BY OUR NOTE AND IS
STRIKING IN ITS STRONG TONE. IT POINTS OUT THAT WHILE
BENIN ADHERES TO THE VIENNA CONVENTION AND IN PARTICULAR ART
21 AND 22 OF THAT CONVENTION, THE REQUEST TO MOVE THE EMBASSY
IS REQUIRED FOR CONVENIENCE (OF THE GOVT) AND THE REMODELING
OF THE AREA. THE MINISTRY IS PREPARED, IF THE EMBASSY WISHES
TO CALL ON IT, TO HELP THE EMBASSY ACQUIRE A NEW LOCATION,
BUT THE MOVING EXPENSES AND REMODELING REQUIRED WILL NOT
BE PAID BY THE BENINESE GOVT. THIS POSITION QUOTE DOES NOT
VIOLATE THE VIENNA CONVENTION UNQTE.

3. COMMENT: THE TONE AND SUBSTANCE OF THE MINISTRY'S NOTE
APPEAR TO FORECLOSE ANY HOPE OF A CONCILIATORY ATTITUDE ON
THE CHANCERY PROBLEM. IT ALSO WIPES OUT OUR THEORY THAT
ALLADAYE'S BLATANT LIES TO GEN SOGLO WERE A MEANS OF GETTING
OUT OF A CONFRONTATION OVER THE CHANCERY (REF F). EMBASSY
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WILL NOT AGAIN TAKE UP MATTER OF CHANCERY WITH FORNMINISTRY

UNTIL DEPT REACHES A DECISION ON THE FUTURE OF THE US
PRESENCE IN BENIN. END COMMENT

4. FYI: GEN SOGLO HAS SENT ALLADAYE STRONGLY WORDED LETTER
ATTACKING DISCOURTESY OF GOVT FOR FAILURE TO NOTIFY HIM OF
EVICTION OF MHUS TENANTS, AND ASKING TO CONFIRM RESULTS
OF INQUIRY PROMISTED BY FOREIGN MINISTER TO DETERMINE IF
EVICTION NOTICE WAS AN ERROR.
CHESHES

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NATIONALIZATION, CONSULATES, LEASED BUILDINGS, EVACUATION PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976COTONO00358
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760073-0290
From: COTONOU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760211/aaaaajcm.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 COTONOU 198, 76 COTONOU 211, 76 COTONOU 260
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 MAR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <31 MAR 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GPRB ACTIONS REGARDING EMBASSY PROPERTY
TAGS: AFSP, PFOR, US, DM
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006